GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1197
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2016
Offices for Haj
Patle Smt. Kamla Devi

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in the country where offices have been opened for identification of Haj pilgrims;

(b) whether the Government has received any representation regarding the inconvenience being caused to the Haj pilgrims of Chhattisgarh and the adjoining areas because of distant location of the Haj office at Nagpur;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard;
(d) whether the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh has also written any letter in this regard; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a) Presently, Hajis depart for Haj pilgrimage from 21 Embarkation Points across the country. These are located at Ahmedabad, Aurangabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Calicut, Chennai, Gaya, Goa, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Indore, Jaipur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mangaluru, Mumbai, Nagpur, New Delhi, Ranchi, Srinagar and Varanasi.

(b) and (c) A letter was received in the Haj Committee of India, Mumbai in November, 2015 regarding Raipur to be introduced as new Embarkation Point for the pilgrims of Chhattisgarh State. The matter was taken up with the Ministry of Civil Aviation, which is the nodal Ministry in respect of air charter operations for Haj pilgrims. However, it was not found feasible to introduce a new Embarkation Point for Haj pilgrims during Haj 2016.

(d) and (e) Haj matters have been transferred from Ministry of External Affairs to Ministry of Minority Affairs with effect from 1st October, 2016. No letter from the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh is available in the records of the Ministry of Minority Affairs on this issue.

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